

CLAIMS:

1. A card connector for holding either of first and second cards in a connector housing so that contact
5 pads of the card engage contact terminals arranged in the connector housing,

wherein the first card has an upper body portion, a lower body portion formed slightly narrower than the upper body portion and having recessed portions in a
10 front side area thereof, contact pads provided in said recessed portions, and stepped portions formed along both side edges of the card by a bottom surface of
A1 said upper body portion and a bottom surface of said lower body portion, and

15 the second card has a card body portion having almost the same horizontal shape and thickness as the upper body portion of the first card, and contact pads arranged on a bottom surface of the card body portion at almost the same horizontal positions as the contact
20 pads of the first card,

the card connector comprising:

a pair of guide grooves formed in both side walls of the connector housing to support the side edges of the upper body portion of the first card and the side
25 edges of the card body portion of the second card and thereby guide the first or second card as it is inserted or extracted; and

side walls to define, below a space between the pair of the guide grooves, a space in which to accommodate the lower body portion of the first card.

5 2. A card connector according to claim 1, wherein said side walls are formed at such locations that they can guide the side surfaces of the lower body portion of the first card.

10 3. A card connector according to claim 1, further comprising:

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an eject mechanism to eject the card; and
an elastic braking piece arranged at such a position that it engages the bottom surface of the
15 upper body portion of the first card when the first card is inserted and engages the bottom surface of the card body portion of the second card when the second card is inserted, the braking piece applying a braking force to the first or second card when it is ejected.

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4. A card connector according to claim 3, wherein said elastic braking piece is secured to a position which is in a far part of said guide groove and which is a predetermined distance lower than a lower wall of
25 said guide groove.

5. A card connector according to claim 1, wherein a

housing top plate that forms upper walls of said guide grooves is formed with an opening having a width larger than that of the lower body portion of said first card.

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6. A card connector according to claim 1, wherein a housing top plate that forms upper walls of said guide grooves is formed with a recess having a width larger than that of the lower body portion of said first card and receding in the height direction.

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A 7. A card connector according to claim 1, further comprising:

an elastic braking piece arranged at such a position that it engages the bottom surface of the upper body portion of said first card when said first card is inserted and engages the bottom surface of the card body portion of said second card when said second card is inserted, the braking piece applying a braking force to said first or second card in a card extraction direction.

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8. A card connector according to claim 7, wherein said elastic braking piece is secured to a position which is in a far part of said guide groove and which is a predetermined distance lower than a lower wall of said guide groove.

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9. A card connector according to claim 7, wherein a housing top plate that forms upper walls of the guide grooves is formed with an opening having a width
5 larger than that of the lower body portion of the first card.

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10. A card connector according to claim 7, wherein a housing top plate that forms upper walls of said guide
10 grooves is formed with a recess having a width larger than that of the lower body portion of said first card and receding in the height direction.

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